II. Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A solid, oral, controlled release pharmaceutical dosage form comprising a pharmaceutically active ingredient having a solubility in water of greater than 1gm in 250ml water at 25°C, dispersed in a matrix, wherein the matrix comprises a mixture of a hydrophobic fusible material having a melting point of greater than 40°C and a hydrophilic, organic, polymeric fusible wicking agent, wherein the weight ratio of hydrophobic fusible material to hydrophilic, organic polymeric wicking agent in said mixture is in the range from about 8:1 to about 16:1, wherein the dosage form provides, as tested by the Ph. Eur. Basket method at 100 rpm 900 ml aqueous buffer (pH 6.5) containing 0.05% w/w Polysorbate 80 at 37°C, an essentially zero order rate of release of the pharmaceutically active ingredient over a period of 8 hours, the amount of pharmaceutically active ingredient released over eight hours being in the range of 15% to 45%, and when tested in a group of at least five healthy humans the median tmax, based on blood sampling at half hourly intervals, is in the range of from about 2.5 to about 6 hours, and the ratio of mean Cmax to the mean plasma level at 24 hours is in the range of about 1.5 to about 3.5.

2. (Original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, wherein the median tmax is in a range from 2.5 to 3.5 hours.

3. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, which has a W_{50} in the range from about 15 to about 35 hours when tested *in vivo* as set forth in claim 1.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, in which the pharmaceutically active ingredient is morphine, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or mixtures thereof.

7. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~5~~, which is suitable for once a day dosing.

8. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, in the form of a tablet or a capsule containing multiparticulates.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) A solid, oral controlled release pharmaceutical dosage form which comprises a pharmaceutically active ingredient having a solubility in water of greater than 1gm in 250ml water at 25°C dispersed in a matrix, wherein the matrix comprises a mixture of a hydrophobic fusible material having a melting point of greater than 40°C and a hydrophilic, organic, polymeric fusible wicking agent, wherein the weight ratio of hydrophobic fusible material to hydrophilic, organic polymeric wicking agent in said mixture is in the range from about 8:1 to about 16:1, the dosage form being obtainable by a process comprising:

(a) mechanically working in a high shear mixer a mixture of hydrophobic, fusible binder and an organic, fusible, polymeric material which in the finished dosage form is capable of functioning as a wicking agent at a speed and temperature at which the binder melts or softens and the mixture forms agglomerates;

(b) extruding the agglomerates whereby the extrudate is obtained as extruded pieces or an elongate extrudate is formed into pieces;

(c) continuing mechanically working the pieces in a high shear mixer; and

(d) continuing mechanically working with additional binder material at a temperature and speed at which the additional binder melts or softens.

12. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, which has a W_{50} in the range from about 20 to about 30 hours when tested *in vivo* as set forth in claim 1.

13. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, in which the pharmaceutically active ingredient is morphine sulfate or morphine hydrochloride.

14. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1~~–4~~, wherein the median t_{max} is in the range from about 2.5 to about 3.5 hours.

15. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~-4~~, wherein the W_{50} is in a range from about 15 to about 35 hours.

16. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~-4~~, wherein the W_{50} is in a range from about 20 to about 30 hours.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~-4~~, wherein the pharmaceutically active ingredient is morphine, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or mixture thereof.

19. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~-4~~, wherein the pharmaceutically active ingredient is morphine sulfate or morphine hydrochloride.

20. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~-5~~, wherein the pharmaceutically active ingredient is morphine, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or mixture thereof.

21. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~-5~~, wherein the pharmaceutically active ingredient is morphine sulfate or morphine hydrochloride.

22. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1, which is suitable for once a day dosing.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~-4~~, in the form of a tablet or capsule containing multiparticulates.

25. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 ~~-5~~, in the form of a tablet or capsule containing multiparticulates.